

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

An interview was held on September 15, 2008 between Examiner Kenan Cehic and Applicant's representative Michael Ferrazano. Examiner Cehic stated that the Wolf reference will be withdrawn and further consideration of the application will be taken upon receipt of written response.

REMARKS

The Examiner has provisionally rejected a number of claims on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness type double patenting over claims of U.S. Patent 7,177,329. A terminal disclaimer will be timely filed in order to overcome the provisional non-statutory obviousness type double patenting rejection, if necessary.

The Examiner rejected a number of claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent 6,914,637 issued to Wolf in view of U.S. Patent Application 2004/0114607 to Shay. The Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection based at least upon the following remarks.

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention. In particular, the invention as recited in the independent claims is directed at a video source connected to a video display device by way of a linking unit having both a unidirectional main link and a bidirectional auxiliary channel. Video data at a native stream rate is packetized and transmitted from the video source to the video display device over the main link at a link rate that is independent of the native stream rate. In particular, there is no clock line nor a separate clock signal passing between the video source and the video display device.

The Wolf reference has been discussed in detail in prior responses and any reference to Wolfe in this response will involve issues specifically raised in the instant Office Action by the Examiner. In particular, at page 20 of the Office Action, the Examiner states,

“Wolf is silent about:

For claim 1, and 21 wherein the linking unit does not include a clock line.

For claim 41 wherein channels do not include a clock line.”

The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner that Wolf is silent not including a clock line. As stated voluminously in previous responses, Wolf (and all TDMS based technologies such as DVI and HDMI) **must** include a clock line. The clock line in Wolf is shown and discussed throughout the specification, for example, at column 11, starting at line 63,

“The FIG. 2 system preferably transmits a video clock over a conductor pair (labeled C in FIG. 2) of the TMDS link, and also transmits a clock for the auxiliary data over at least one channel of the link. For example, transmitter 1’ transmits video data to receiver 2’ over channels 0, 1, and 2 (which are identical to the identically numbered channels of the FIG. 1 system) during active video periods, transmits audio data (e.g., left and right stereo signals) over one or more of Channels 0, 1, and 2 to receiver 2’ at times other than during the active video periods, **continuously transmits a video clock (e.g., determined by the rising edges of a binary waveform) over Channel C...**”. (emphasis added)

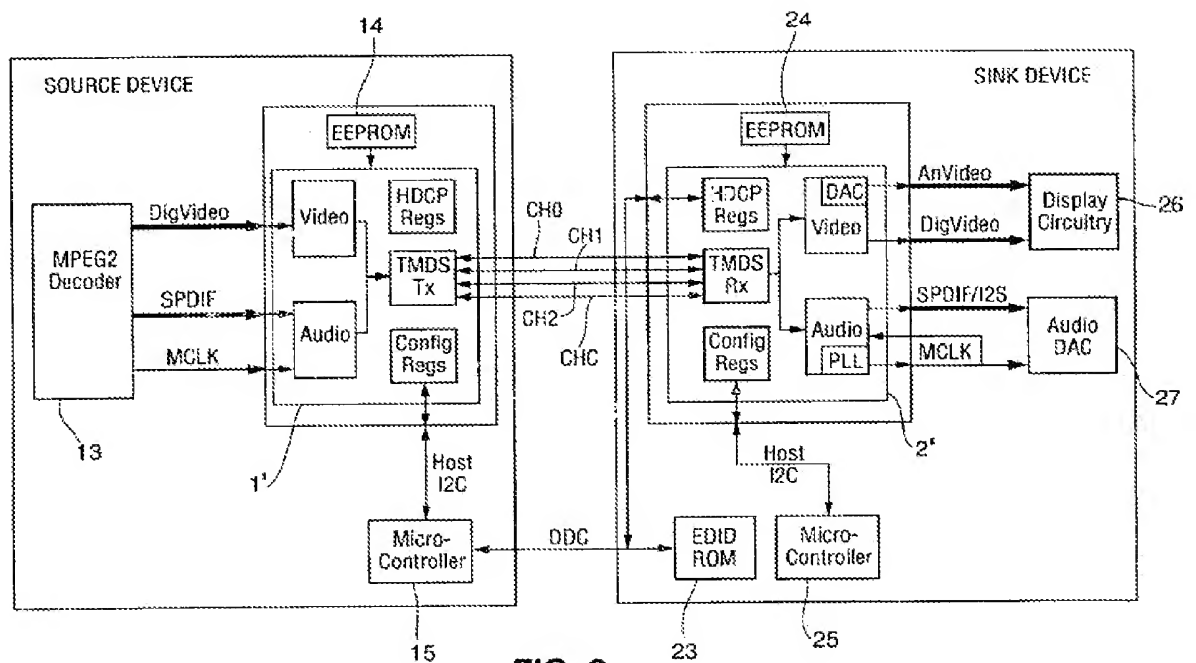


FIG. 2

Therefore, Wolf is not silent about a clock line (i.e., Channel C) over which a clock signal is sent. In addition to the clock signal being sent over the Channel C, Wolf requires that at least one channel of the DDC link be used to carry a clock signal for any auxiliary data sent over the DDC link.

In summary, the Wolf reference unequivocally discusses a clock line at great length in contrast to the Examiner's statement and if there is any silence about not including a clock line it is because Wolf would be inoperable without a clock line and therefore no discussion would be necessary. Furthermore, the Examiner relies upon the Shay reference that cannot be combined with Wolf since Shay is directed at a packet switched network as opposed to the serial link of Wolf.

Furthermore, Wolf requires that the link rate (i.e., the rate of packet transmission over the link) be dependent upon the native clock rate (i.e., the pixel clock for video) in contrast to the

invention where the link rate is independent of the native stream rate. Figs. 10 - 12 of Wolf shown below concisely illustrates this point.

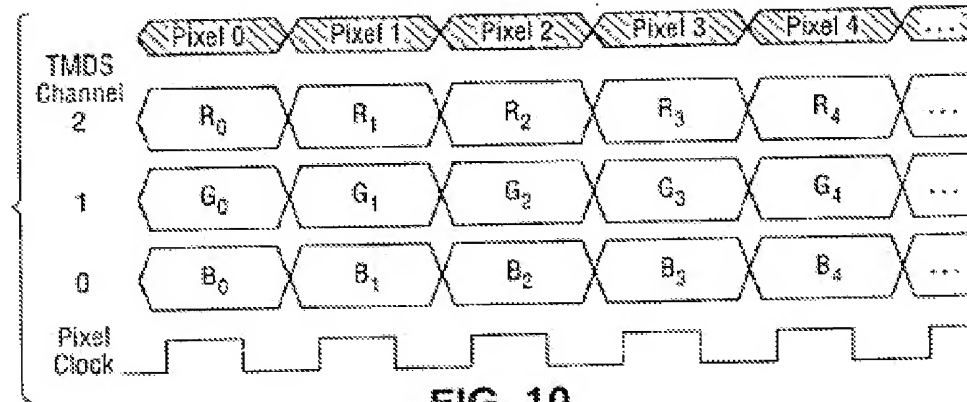


FIG. 10

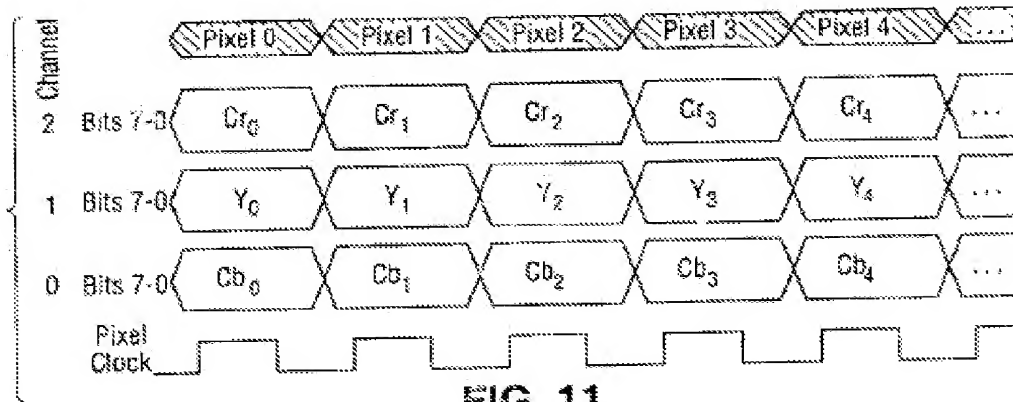


FIG. 11

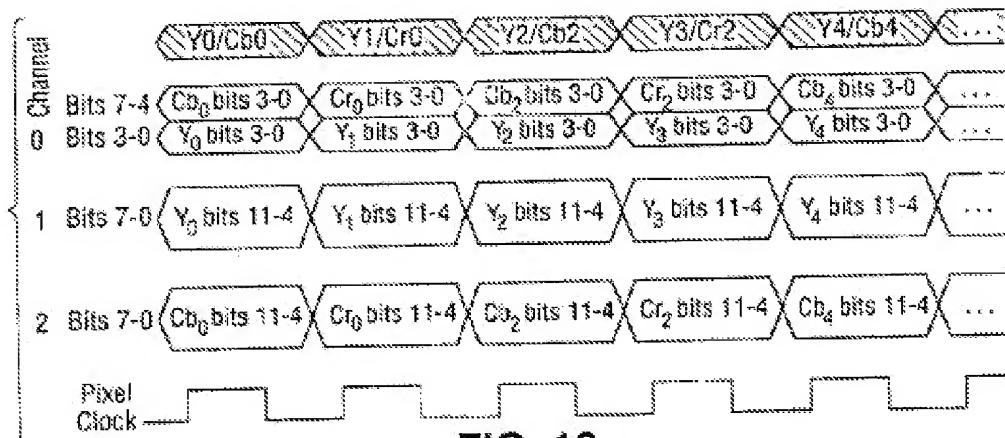


FIG. 12

Clearly, with Wolf the link rate (number of data packets transmitted over the link per unit time) is dependent upon the native stream rate (i.e., the pixel clock) as they are in strict lockstep. For example, if the pixel clock is faster, then the data link rate increases and conversely as the pixel clock is reduced so does the link rate. In contrast, the invention specifically requires that the link rate be independent of the native stream rate. This is so since the invention teaches away from a clock line having a separate clock signal thereby allowing the link rate to vary independent of any native stream rate.

In light of the above remarks, the Applicants believe that independent claims 1, 21, and 41 are allowable as all dependent claims all of which depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 21, and 41.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable. Should the Examiner believe that a further telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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